

(a) the quantum of potato produced in the country during 1989-90 and 1990-91; and

(b) the yield level per hectare during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The quantum of potato production in the country during 1989-90 and 1990-91 was respectively 147.7 and 152.5 lakh tonnes.

(b) The yield of potato per hectare during the last two years was as under:

<i>Yield</i>	<i>(Kgs. per hectare)</i>
1989-90	15714
1990-91	16195

### **Orange Cultivation**

2590. SHRI GOPI NATH GAJAPATHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the steps taken by the Government to promote Orange cultivation in the country;

(b) whether any extension centres are established to assist the farmers to grow Orange;

(c) if so, the places where these Centres have been set up;

(d) whether the climatic conditions and soil of Pallahara area in Oissa is suitable for growing Orange; and

(e) if so, the steps taken to assist the local farmers in this area to grow Orange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE

MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN): (a) The Government of India are implementing two scheme for the development of fruit trees which include oranges also,

(i) establishment of nutritional gardens in rural areas;

(ii) Central Sector Scheme on Integrated Development of Tropical and Arid Zone Fruits

besides, the State Governments also provide assistance for development of different fruit crops including oranges.

(b) and (c). Central Government is not establishing extension centres to assist farmers to grow oranges. However, State Governments are having extension services for different crops which include oranges also.

(d) and (e). Yes, Sir, Quality planting material is raised in the departmental farms and nurseries. The farmers are being provided technical known-now and other inputs.

### **Cement Project In Bhutan**

2591. SHRI UDDHAB BARMAN: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have any proposal to implement a Cement Project at Nanglam in Bhutan under the Aid Bhutan Programme; and

(b) if so, the steps being taken in that regard and the likely date of its completion?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) Yes, Sir. At the request of the Royal Government of Bhutan, India would take up the implementation of a Cement Plant at

Nanglam in Bhutan under the Aid Bhutan Programme.

(b) After the agreement on the project is signed between the Govt. of India and the Royal Govt. of Bhutan, the Detailed Project Report of the Nanglam Cement Project will be updated. The project is likely to be taken up for execution in 1993 and is expected to be completed in 1997-98.

[Translation]

**CBI Investigation on Assassination of JMM Leader in Bihar**

2592. SHRI SIMON MARANDI:  
SHRI SHAILENDRA MAHTO:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Bihar had requested the Union Government to get the assassination case of the Ex-President of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha, Late Nirmal Mahto investigated by the Central Bureau of Investigation;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) the progress made in the investigation of the case so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Investigation of this case was completed by the Central Bureau of Investigation and a charge sheet filed in the Court against the accused.

[English]

**Amendments to Official Secrets Act**

2593. SHRI MADAN LAL KHURANA:  
DR. RAVI MALLU:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to amend the Official Secrets Act;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be amended?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI M.M. JACOB): (a) to (c). There has been a proposal to carry out certain amendments to the Official Secrets Act, 1923 which are generally aimed at making the relevant provisions more liberal to provide treated access to official information. In view of the importance and complexity of the subject, formulation of definite views on the issues involved in the matter, would necessarily take time.

**Activities of U.K. Nationals**

2594. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV:  
SHRI SANAT KUMAR  
MANDAL:  
SHRI SUKHENDU KHAN:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether attention of the Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "What were the two Britons doing in North-East?" appearing in the Indian Express dated February 14, 1992;